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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Christine VÖLKER - 1 PCT  
SERIAL NO.: 10/540,080 GROUP: 2837  
FILED: JUNE 22, 2005  
FOR: AIRBORNE-SOUND ABSORBING COMPONENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents

P.O. Box 1450


Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is the International Preliminary Report on Patentability in the English.

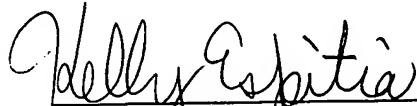
Respectfully submitted,  
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Attorneys for Applicants

Enclosures: International Preliminary Report on Patentability.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 28, 2006.

  
Kelly Espitia

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

**PCT**

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL  
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY  
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II  
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)  
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

MEYER, Hans-Joachim  
Cohausz & Florack  
Bleichstr. 14  
40211 Düsseldorf  
ALLEMAGNE

ingang:	13. SEP. 2006
Frist bis:	
Geurteilt:	Erledigt:
Myb	

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 08 September 2006 (08.09.2006)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference <u>031156WO</u>	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/EP2004/011899	International filing date (day/month/year) 21 October 2004 (21.10.2004)
Applicant CARCOUSTICS TECH CENTER GMBH et al	

## 1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

## 2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

## 3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer  Yolaine Cussac
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# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 031156WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/EP2004/011899	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 21 October 2004 (21.10.2004)	Priority date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 23 December 2003 (23.12.2003)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant CARCOUSTICS TECH CENTER GMBH			

<p>1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.</p>																
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I</td> <td>Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table> <p>4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application															
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application															

	Date of issuance of this report 29 August 2006 (29.08.2006)
The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer  Yolaine Cussac
Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70	e-mail: pt11@wipo.int

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing (day/month/year) **See form PCT/ISA/210**

Applicant's or agent's file reference  
**031156WO**

**FOR FURTHER ACTION**  
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.  
**PCT/EP2004/011899**

International filing date (day/month/year)  
**21.10.2004**

Priority date (day/month/year)  
**23.12.2003**

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC  
**G10K11/16, G10K11/172**

Applicant  
**CARCOUSTICS TECH CENTER GMBH**

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/011899

Box No. 1

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.  
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language  
\_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - a. type of material  
☐ a sequence listing  
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
  - b. format of material  
☐ in written format  
☐ in computer readable form
  - c. time of filing/furnishing  
☐ contained in the international application as filed.  
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/011899

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-24</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>1-24</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-24</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

- 1 This opinion makes reference to the following document:

D1: US 6 305 494 B1

- 2 Document D1 is regarded as the closest prior art and discloses a component which absorbs airborne sound according to the preamble of claim 1.

- 2.1 The subject matter of the independent claim 1 differs from this in that: those wall sections which can oscillate and face the sound incidence are closed in an airtight manner, with the resonant absorber being provided with one or more spacers, in such a manner that at least the majority of those wall sections of the hollow chambers which face the sound incidence make no contact with the porous layer and can oscillate independently of it.

- 2.2 The subject matter of claim 1 is thus novel (PCT Article 33(2)). The problem addressed by the present invention can therefore be considered that of the

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/011899

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability: citations and explanations supporting such statement
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component which absorbs airborne sound having an improved sound absorption capability over a wide frequency range, and that it can be produced advantageously.

2.3 The solution proposed for this problem in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step for the following reasons (PCT Article 33(3)): the sound-absorbent layer arranged in front of the resonant absorber also makes it possible to use the intermediate spaces which exist between the hollow chambers on that side of the resonant absorber which faces the sound for sound absorption.

3 Claims 2-24 are dependent on claim 1, and thus likewise meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.

4 There is no doubt as to the industrial applicability of the subject matter of claims 1-24.